



USDA-NASS

Montana Crop & Livestock Reporter

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Montana Agricultural Statistics Service

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HIGHLIGHTS:

Hay Production
Sugar Beet Production
Cattle on Feed
Annual Bulletin Available
Milk Production
Egg Production
Wheat Utilization
Red Meat Production

October 1, 2004 Montana All Hay and Sugar Beet Production Forecast

Total production of **alfalfa hay** in Montana is estimated to be 3.680 million tons, up 10 percent from the previous year.

Alfalfa hay yield rose 0.30 ton to 2.30 tons per acre from the August forecast. Harvested acreage, at 1.60 million acres, remained unchanged from both August and 2003. **Other hay** yield increased 0.10 ton from August's forecast, and is estimated at 1.70 tons per acre, up 0.20 ton per acre from last year. Other hay production is expected to be 1.615 million tons, up 27 percent from 2003. If realized, the other hay yield of 1.70 tons per acre would match the previous record high yield which occurred in 1993 and 1995. Other hay harvested acreage is unchanged from August at 950,000 acres, but is up 100,000 acres from 2003. **All hay** production is estimated at 5.295 million tons, up 14 percent from last year. Hay yields are higher this year due to timely rainfall during the growing season and some producers being able to get three cuttings of hay this year.

Montana's **sugar beet** production is forecast at 1.096 million tons for 2004, the same as September's forecast, but down 16 percent from 2003. Sugar beet yield is

expected to drop due to producers replanting beet acreage lost to frost damage and cooler temperatures during the growing season, which slowed crop development. Forecasted yield, at 21.0 tons per acre, is unchanged from last month, but down 4.4 tons per acre from last year. Harvested acreage, at 52,200 acres, is unchanged from September, but up 700 acres from last year. Harvest progress is slightly behind last year with 16 percent of the beets pulled by the week ending October 3, compared with the 5-year average of 20 percent.

U.S. **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** production is forecast at 77.4 million tons, virtually unchanged from the August forecast, but up 1 percent from last year. Yields are expected to average 3.48 tons per acre, unchanged from August but 0.24 ton above last year. Harvested area is 22.2 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 6 percent from 2003. U.S. **other hay** production is forecast at 88.5 million tons, up 5 percent from August and up 10 percent from 2003. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 2.25 tons, up 0.10 ton from August and 0.22 ton above last year. If realized, both yield and production would be the highest on record. Harvested area is 39.4 million acres, unchanged from the August forecast, but down 1 percent from the previous year.

Sugar beet production for 2004 in the United States is forecast at 28.8 million tons, 1 percent above the September forecast, but 6 percent below last year's production. The yield is forecast at 21.7 tons per acre, up 0.2 ton from September, but 1.0 ton below 2003. Growers in the 12 sugar beet producing States expect to harvest 1.33 million acres, virtually unchanged from last month, but 2 percent below last year. As of October 3, harvest progress in the 4 major producing States was behind the 5-year average.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Up 3 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.5 million head on October 1, 2004. The inventory was 3 percent above October 1, 2003 and up slightly from October 1, 2002. The inventory included 6.46 million steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.96 million head, up 1 percent from 2003.

Placements in feedlots during September totaled 2.37 million, 4 percent below 2003 but 8 percent above 2002. Net placements were 2.31 million head. During September, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 623,000, 600-699 pounds were 474,000, 700-799 pounds were 557,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 720,000. Marketings of fed cattle during September totaled 1.80 million, 11 percent below 2003 and 3 percent below 2002. This is the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of September since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 61,000 during September, 3 percent below 2003 but 15 percent above 2002.

Montana Agricultural Statistics 2004 Book Available Soon

The annual report contains state and county crop and livestock estimates, farm income, prices, farm numbers, Montana's rank among states, and other statistical data.

The Montana Agricultural Statistics 2004 book will be available in December or early January in printed form or on our website at www.nass.usda.gov/mt/. The price for the printed book is \$10.00. Those who supply survey information are not charged.

October 1, 2004 Crop Production Forecast, Montana and U.S.

Crop	Unit	Acres Planted		Acres Harvested		Yield		Production	
		2003	2004 1/	2003	2004 1/	2003	2004 1/	2003	2004 1/
		(000) Acres		(000) Acres				(000) Units	
Winter Wheat	Bu.	1,900	1,900	1,820	1,630	37.0	41.0	67,340	66,830
Durum Wheat	Bu.	640	570	630	550	23.0	32.0	14,490	17,600
Spring Wheat	Bu.	2,900	3,000	2,750	2,900	22.0	31.0	60,500	89,900
All Wheat	Bu.	5,440	5,470	5,200	5,080	27.4	34.3	142,330	174,330
Corn for Grain 2/	Bu.	65.0	60.0	17.0	15.0	140.0	4/	2,380	4/
Oats	Bu.	120	105	45.0	40.0	44.0	60.0	1,980	2,400
Barley	Bu.	1,150	1,000	850	830	40.0	59.0	34,000	48,970
Flaxseed	Bu.	17.0	16.0	17.0	15.0	13.0	4/	221	4/
Dry Beans	Cwt.	13.0	18.0	12.8	17.0	18.2	20.0	233	340
Dry Peas	Cwt.	33.0	50.0	31.0	40.0	14.5	4/	450	4/
Lentils	Cwt.	30.0	38.0	26.0	35.0	10.5	4/	273	4/
Aus. Winter Peas	Cwt.	9.5	10.0	7.0	5.0	8.0	4/	56	4/
Sugar Beets	Ton	51.7	53.4	51.5	52.2	25.4	21.0	1,308	1,096
Fall Potatoes	Cwt.	10.7	10.7	10.6	10.6	315.0.	3/	3,339	3/
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	--	--	1,600	1,600	2.10	2.30	3,360	3,680
All Other Hay	Ton	--	--	850	950	1.50	1.70	1,275	1,615
All Hay	Ton	--	--	2,450	2,550	1.89	2.08	4,635	5,295
UNITED STATES		(000) Acres		(000) Acres				(000) Units	
Winter Wheat	Bu.	45,384	43,350	36,753	34,462	46.7	43.5	1,716,721	1,499,434
Durum Wheat	Bu.	2,915	2,561	2,869	2,448	33.7	37.0	96,637	90,468
Spring Wheat	Bu.	13,842	13,763	13,441	13,294	39.5	43.1	531,402	573,618
All Wheat	Bu.	62,141	59,674	53,063	50,204	44.2	43.1	2,344,760	2,163,520
Corn for Grain 2/	Bu.	78,736	80,968	71,139	73,377	142.2	148.9	10,113,887	10,923,099
Oats	Bu.	4,597	4,085	2,220	1,807	65.0	64.5	144,383	116,505
Barley	Bu.	5,348	4,527	4,727	4,031	58.9	69.5	278,283	280,103
Flaxseed	Bu.	595	629	583	608	17.9	4/	10,426	4/
Dry Beans	Cwt.	1,406.1	1,373.4	1,346.9	1,250.1	16.7	15.0	22,515	18,693
Dry Peas	Cwt.	337.5	480.0	328.5	454.0	15.6	4/	5,202	4/
Lentils	Cwt.	246.0	300.0	237.0	293.0	10.1	4/	2,442	4/
Aus. Winter Peas	Cwt.	21.1	25.5	15.6	16.6	12.4	4/	183	4/
Sugar Beets	Ton	1,365.4	1,349.8	1,347.9	1,326.0	22.7	21.5	30,583	28,840
Fall Potatoes	Cwt.	1,107.6	1,037.8	1,092.0	1,022.8	377	3/	411,386	3/
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	--	--	23,578	22,226	3.24	3.48	76,307	77,371
All Other Hay	Ton	--	--	39,764	39,363	2.03	2.25	80,816	88,549
All Hay	Ton	--	--	63,342	61,589	2.48	2.69	157,123	165,920

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Planted for all purposes. 3/ Forecast available November 12, 2004. 4/ Forecast available January 12, 2005 -- Not published.

September Milk Production

Milk production in the 20 major States during September totaled 11.9 billion pounds, up 1.3 percent from September 2003. August revised production, at 12.4 billion pounds, was up 1.4 percent from August 2003. The August revision represented a decrease of 11 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,529 pounds for September, 18 pounds above September 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 6,000 head less than September 2003, but 4,000 head more than August 2004.

July-September Milk Production Up 1.1 Percent

Milk production in the U.S. during the July-September quarter totaled 42.2 billion pounds, up 1.1 percent from the July-September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.03 million head, 40,000 head less than the same period last year.

September Egg Production

U.S. egg production totaled 7.32 billion during September 2004, up 3 percent from last year. Production included 6.26 billion table eggs, and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 996 million were broiler-type and 60 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during September 2004 averaged 343 million, up 3 percent from a

year earlier. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,133 eggs, up slightly from September 2003.

All layers in the U.S. on October 1, 2004, totaled 344 million, up 3 percent from a year ago. The 344 million layers consisted of 285 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 55.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.61 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 2004, averaged 71.3 eggs per 100 layers, up slightly from a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.84 billion eggs during September 2004, up 3 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during September, at 321 million, was up 3 percent from a year ago.

Wheat Utilization for 1999-2003 Marketing Years

The June 2002 - May 2003 marketing year total wheat supply was 183.9 million bushels, 9 percent more than a year earlier, and 24 percent above the 2000-01 marketing year. Total supply is calculated by adding 2003 all wheat production to June 2003 all wheat stocks. Total disposition of 143.5 million bushels was 14 percent more than the quantity marketed during the 2001-2002 marketing year. Ending stocks of 40.4 million

bushels were 3 percent less than last year. Wheat utilization reports are assembled from Grain Movement Reports and Grain Market News data by the Montana Agriculture Statistics Service. Funding was provided by the Montana Wheat and Barley Committee

Montana shipped 136.1 million bushels out of state during the 2002 - 2003 marketing year, 16 percent more than moved during the same period last year. Shipments to the Pacific Northwest totaled 95.7 million bushels, 16 percent more than

the 2001 - 2002 season, and accounted for 70 percent of the wheat shipped out of state. Pacific Northwest export facilities accounted for 69.8 million bushels, while Pacific Northwest processing terminals accounted for 22.8 million bushels.

Inspected exports of hard red winter, hard red spring, hard white, and durum wheat from Pacific ports were 208.3 million bushels, up 4 percent from the previous year. Montana's recorded share of those exports was 35 percent, 2 points above the 2001-2002 marketing year.

All Wheat: Supply and Disposition by Marketing Year, Montana, 1999-2003

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003/2002
	Million Bushels					Percent
SUPPLY						
Beginning Stocks 1/	70.6	60.9	51.4	57.3	41.6	73
Production	154.3	135.2	96.6	110.7	142.3	129
Total Supply	224.9	196.1	148.0	168.0	183.9	109
DISPOSITION						
Recorded movement out of state 2/	145.5	125.3	67.7	117.1	136.1	116
Used for seed in Montana	5.7	5.8	6.3	5.8	5.9	102
Residual 3/	12.8	13.6	16.7	3.5	1.5	43
Total Disposition	164.0	144.7	90.7	126.4	143.5	114
Pacific Northwest exports as a percent of total disposition	60%	61%	41%	52%	51%	
Ending Stocks 1/	60.9	51.4	57.3	41.6	40.4	97
1/ June 1 stocks, All Positions. 2/ Montana Wheat Movement Project						
3/ Used for flour, used for livestock feed, handling losses, and other unaccounted disappearance.						

All Wheat: Recorded Movement by Destination & Marketing Years, Montana, 1999-2003

ITEM	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003/2002
	Million Bushels					Percent
All Destinations	160.9	144.2	83.7	133.2	145.5	109
Out of Montana	145.5	125.3	67.7	117.1	136.1	116
Pacific Northwest Destinations	112.5	98.4	44.8	82.8	95.7	116
Export Destinations	98.3	87.6	37.2	65.6	72.9	111
Export Facilities	91.8	81.8	34.8	63.3	69.8	110
Columbia/Snake River Barge System	6.5	5.8	2.4	2.3	3.1	135
Processing Destinations	14.2	10.8	7.6	17.2	22.8	133
Interior Oregon & Washington Facilities	8.2	5.3	2.2	10.8	13.1	121
Mills	6.0	5.5	5.4	6.4	9.7	152
Non-Pacific Northwest Destinations	33.0	26.9	22.9	34.3	40.4	118
Montana Destinations	15.4	18.9	16.0	16.1	9.4	58
Inspected exports of Hard Red Spring, Hard Red Winter, Hard White, and Durum - Pacific ports 1/	207.4	204.4	195.5	200.2	208.3	104
Montana recorded exports as percent of total Hard Red Spring, Hard Red Winter, Hard White and Durum exports from Pacific ports	47%	43%	19%	33%	35%	

1/ California, Oregon, and Washington ports.
PLEASE NOTE: Funding for the above statistics was provided by the Montana Wheat & Barley Committee.

September Red Meat Production

Montana slaughter plants produced 1.3 million pounds, dressed weight, of red meat during September 2004, down 19 percent from last year, and down 18 percent from the previous month's production. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,400 head, down 22 percent from a year ago. The average live weight increased 3 pounds to 1,143 from the previous year.

During September there were 1,400 hogs slaughtered, 300 fewer than a year ago. The average live weight, at 237 pounds, rose 5 pounds from last year. September sheep slaughter in the state totaled 500 head, 100 head more than September 2003. The average live weight decreased 6 pounds to 120 pounds.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.91 billion pounds in September, down 3 percent from the 4.01 billion pounds produced in September 2003. Beef production, at 2.10 billion pounds, was 9 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.74 million head, down 13 percent from September 2003. The average live weight was up 38 pounds from the previous year, at 1,266 pounds. Veal production totaled 13.0 million pounds, 15 percent below September a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 67,300 head, down 18 percent from September 2003. The average live weight was 13 pounds above last year, at 321 pounds.

U.S. pork production totaled 1.77 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.00

million head, 5 percent above September 2003. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 265 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 16.3 million pounds, was down 4 percent from September 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 243,600 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 133 pounds, up 2 pounds from September a year ago.

January to September 2004 commercial red meat production for the United States was 33.8 billion pounds, down 3 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 9 percent from last year, veal was down 11 percent, pork was up 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 2 percent.

COMING IN NEXT REPORTER

Ag Prices Received	Dry Pea Production
2004 Crop Year Summary	Lentil Production
Austrian Winter Pea	Potato Production
Production	Sugar Beet Production
Dry Bean Production	

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